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CBC CALLS ON BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT RECOMMENDATIONS OF YEAR-ROUND EDUCATION TASK FORCE

COMMISSION FIRST CALLED FOR YEAR-ROUND SCHOOLING IN 1996

The Citizens Budget Commission (CBC) today called on the members of the New York City Board of Education to adopt the recommendations of the Year-Round Education Task Force. Those recommendations include the creation of a program of year-round education for all newly constructed high schools in New York City's five-year capital plan; the designation of those schools as "schools of choice" for all students, faculty, and staff; and, the capping of enrollment at those schools. The Board is scheduled to consider those recommendations at a meeting later today.

CBC President Diana Fortuna is a member of the Task Force, which has been led by Terri Thomson, the Board of Education member from Queens.

"Terri Thomson has done an extraordinary job of leading this Task Force, with its diverse concerns from all across the city, and forging a creative solution that moves school reform forward in a substantial way," said Diana Fortuna. "This is precisely the kind of innovation that is needed in order for New York's schools to provide the quality of education that our city's children deserve."

In 1996, in a study analyzing the cost of upgrading school buildings, CBC first called on the Board of Education to embark upon a program of year-round schooling. The study found that, under current capital spending plans, there was no way that the school system could solve the problem of overcrowding and bring schools into a state of good repair without turning to an alternative schedule such as year-round schools.

Founded in 1932, the Citizens Budget Commission is a nonpartisan, nonprofit civic organization devoted to influencing constructive change in the finances and services of New York City and New York State governments.

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